In the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-8. (cancelled)

- 9. (currently amended) A method of treating or preventing irritable bowel syndrome which comprises administering to a patient in the need thereof a compound having NMDA receptor antagonist activity or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 10. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome comprising a compound having NMDA receptor antagonist activity and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 11. (previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10, wherein the compound having NMDA receptor antagonist activity is a non-competitive NMDA receptor antagonist.
- 12. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10, wherein the compound having NMDA receptor antagonist activity is a compound of formula # (I) or a metabolite or isomer thereof

$$R^{1}$$
-CH2 $\stackrel{R^{2}}{\underset{R^{3}}{|}}$ $\stackrel{O}{\underset{R^{4}}{|}}$ $\stackrel{NH_{2}}{\underset{R}{|}}$

where:

R1 and R2 are independently phenyl or 4-fluorophenyl;

 R^3 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or methoxycarbonyl;

R4 is hydrogen or methyl;

 $\frac{\text{and-metabolites-and isomers thereof-both}}{\text{pharmaceutically acceptable }}$ salt thereof.

- 13. (new) The method according to claim 9 wherein the compound is a non-competitive NMDA receptor antagonist.
- 14. (new) The method according to claim 9 wherein the compound is a compound of formula (I) or a metabolite or isomer thereof

where:

R¹ and R² are independently phenyl or 4-fluorophenyl;

R3 is hydrogen, C1.6 alkyl or methoxycarbonyl;

R4 is hydrogen or methyl;

as a free base or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 15. (new) The method according to claim 14 wherein the compound is remacemide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 16. (new) The method according to claim 14 wherein the compound is 2,3-diphenyl-2-propylamine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 17. (new) The method according to claim 14 wherein the compound is (S)-1-phenyl-2-(2-pyridyl)ethanamine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 18. (new) The method according to claim 9 wherein the compound is memantine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 19. (new) The method according to claim 9 wherein the compound is 2-amino-N-(1,2-diphenylethyl)acetamide, alpha-phenyl-1H-pyrazole-1-ethanamine, (+)-N-ethyl-1-phenyl-2-(3-pyrazine)ethanamine, or 2-amidino-6-(2-amino-2-phenyl)-ethylpyridine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.